GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1342
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
DIFFERENCE IN RETAIL AND WHOLESALE PRICE
Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the per kilogram difference between existing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities in the metropolitan cities;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in relation to maximum permissible difference between wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the Government monitors the prices, especially the retail prices of essential commodities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION(DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) : The per kilogram difference between existing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities in the metropolitan cities is given in table below:

(Rs per kg)

Commodity Centre	Retail Price 14.11.07	Wholesale Price 14.11.07	Variation
Rice			
Chennai	14.00	12.00	2.00
Delhi	16.00	13.90	2.10
Kolkata	13.00	12.00	1.00
Mumbai	14.25	12.75	1.50
Wheat			
Chennai	16.00	15.50	0.50
Delhi	12.00	10.30	1.70
Kolkata	Nt		
Mumbai	14.50	12.75	1.75
Atta			
Chennai	18.00	17.00	1.00
Delhi	13.00	11.65	1.35
Kolkata	14.00	12.20	1.80
Mumbai	15.50	14.00	1.50
Gram			
Chennai	36.00	32.80	3.20
Delhi	35.00	30.25	4.75

Kolkata	32.00	30.00	2.00
Mumbai	34.00	33.00	1.00

Tur

Chennai	44.00	42.00	2.00
Delhi	40.00	35.75	4.25
Kolkata	38.00	36.00	2.00
Mumbai	44.00	39.00	5.00

Sugar

Chennai	14.00	13.50	0.50
Delhi	17.00	14.15	2.85
Kolkata	16.00	15.10	0.90
Mumbai	17.50	14.48	3.02

Gur

Chennai	14.00	12.50	1.50
Delhi	18.00	15.75	2.25
Kolkata	16.00	12.50	3.50
Mumbai	20.00	16.50	3.50

Commodity Centre	Retail Price 14.11.07	Wholesale Price 14.11.07	Variation

Groundnut Oil

Chennai	70.00	60.50	9.50
Delhi	120.00	113.55	6.45
Kolkata	86.00	83.50	2.50
Mumbai	95.00	90.00	5.00

Mustard oil

Chennai	Nt	Nt	-
Delhi	64.00	57.50	6.50
Kolkata	60.00	57.50	2.50
Mumbai	64.00	62.66	1.34

Vanaspati

Chennai	66.00	65.00	1.00
Delhi	62.00	56.04	5.96
Kolkata	55.00	52.50	2.50
Mumbai	64.00	60.66	3.34

Tea(loose)

Chennai	Nr	Nr	-
Delhi	108.00	92.85	15.15
Kolkata	100.00	80.00	20.00
Mumbai	144.00	65.00	79.00

Milk@

Chennai	15.50	-
Delhi	20.00	-
Kolkata	29.00	-
Mumbai	18.00	-

Potato

Chennai	15.00	12.00	3.00
Delhi	13.00	6.25	-6.75
Kolkata	9.00	8.00	1.00
Mumbai	13.00	10.50	2.50

Onion

Chennai	14.00	10.00	4.00
Delhi	15.00	7.75	7.25
Kolkata	18.00	15.00	3.00
Mumbai	16.50	10.00	6.50

Source : State Civil Supplies Departments. NR − Not Reported. NT − Not Traded There are no wholesale prices for Milk

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(b) & (c): No, Sir. Wholesale and retail prices are mainly determined by market forces of supply and demand. There are no specific guidelines issued by Government for maximum difference permissible between wholesale and retail prices. However, for those essential commodities, which are supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS), issue prices are prescribed by the Government.

(d) : Price Monitoring Cell (PMC) in the Department of Consumer Affairs regularly monitors on a daily basis the retail prices of 14 essential commodities, viz., rice, wheat, atta, gram, tur/arhar, tea, milk, sugar, vanaspati, mustard oil, groundnut oil, potato, onion and salt. For monitoring of prices, information on daily retail prices of 14 essential commodities from 18 centres and wholesale prices on weekly basis from 37 centres spread all over the country are collected from the Civil Supplies Departments of State Governments /UT Administrations. The retail prices of essential commodities are updated daily in the website of the Department of Consumer Affairs: http://fcamin.nic.in .